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BY JOHN A. GOLDSMITH

WASHINGTON (UPI) --THE SENATE-HOUSE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMITTEE HAS ASKED THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY AND OTHER INTERESTED AGENCIES TO REPORT NEXT WEEK ON THE CAPABILITIES OF THE HYDROGEN BOMB TESTED RECENTLY BY RED CHINA.

RICHARD M. HELMS, CIA DIRECTOR, IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO TESTIFY NEXT THURSDAY AT A CLOSED SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE. SPOKESMEN FOR THE PENTAGON AND THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION ALSO HAVE BEEN ASKED TO APPEAR.

ALTHOUGH IT IS SCHEDULED AS A BRIEFING ON THE SEISMIC, ACOUSTICAL AND ELECTROMAGNETIC DATA COLLECTED ON THE JAN. 17 BLAST, THE SESSION COULD HAVE IMPORTANT POLICY IMPLICATIONS. SOME MEMBERS OF THE SENATE-HOUSE COMMITTEE ARE ALREADY USING THE CHINESE TEST AS AN ARGUMENT FOR GOING AHEAD WITH A U.S. ANTI-BALLISTIC MISSILE (ABM) SYSTEM.

HEIGHTENED CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURES FOR DEPLOYMENT OF AN ABM SYSTEM COULD BE A MAJOR EMBARRASSMENT FOR PRESIDENT JOHNSON AT PRESENT. HOPES FOR U.S.-SOVIET TALKS AIMED AT CURBING MISSILE AND ANTI-MISSILE SYSTEMS WERE ONE OF THE FRAGILE PRODUCTS OF THE SUMMIT TALKS AT GLASSBORO, N.J.

A BRIEFING ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS BY OTHER NATIONS IS STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR THE JOINT COMMITTEE, AND A SESSION ON THE CHINESE TEST COULD BE VIEWED AS NO MORE THAN ROUTINE. HOWEVER, THE SENATE-HOUSE COMMITTEE HAS, ON SOME PAST OCCASIONS, BEEN A MAJOR ADVOCATE FOR NEW WEAPONS SYSTEMS.

THE JOINT COMMITTEE WAS A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE DECISION TO PUSH AHEAD WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE H-BOMB OVER THE OBJECTION OF SOME NUCLEAR SCIENTISTS. THE COMMITTEE ALSO PRESSED THE DEVELOPMENT OF NUCLEAR SHIP PROPULSION AND SPEEDED PRODUCTION OF MISSILE-FIRING POLARIS SUBMARINES.

SOME AUTHORITATIVE INFORMATION ON THE RED CHINESE EXPLOSION HAS ALREADY BEEN MADE PUBLIC, AND SOME OF THE SPECULATIVE REPORTS HAVE BEEN EVALUATED. IT WAS ORIGINALLY ANNOUNCED BY THE AEC, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THE CHINESE BLAST WAS IN THE 2-7 MEGATON RANGE--THE EQUIVALENT OF 2 MILLION TO 7 MILLION POUNDS OF TNT. U.S. EXPERTS NOW ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE THAT IT WAS CLOSER TO 2 MEGATONS THAN TO 7.

U.S. EXPERTS NOW BELIEVE THAT THE CHINESE BLAST TOOK PLACE IN THE ATMOSPHERE, BUT NOT AT AN ALTITUDE WHICH WOULD SUGGEST THAT IT WAS LOFTED BY A MISSILE. THIS, AND OTHER DATA, LEAD EXPERTS TO SUSPECT THAT THE EXPLOSION--IF NOT A FULLY DELIVERABLE HYDROGEN BOMB--WAS AN EXPLOSIVE WHICH COULD BE TRANSPORTED BY PLANE AND WAS, THUS, MORE SOPHISTICATED THAN THE FIRST THERMONUCLEAR DEVICE DETONATED BY THE UNITED STATES.

THE CHINESE EXPLOSION TOOK PLACE, ACCORDING TO THE EXPERTS, AT A HEIGHT WHICH KEPT THE NUCLEAR FIREBALL CLEAR OF THE EARTH'S SURFACE, SO THAT ANYTHING SWEEPING UP--AND RADIATING--PARTICLES FROM THE EARTH'S SURFACE WOULD HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO RADIOACTIVE FALLOUT AFTER THE BLAST.

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